(b) if so, what are the States where the production of oilseeds fell short of target;

(c) the total oilseeds produced in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94;

(d) the efforts being made in oilseeds producing States to improve production of oilseeds; and

(e) whether the rainfall during the monsoon this time have brightened the prospects of oil seed production in the oilseed producing States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) By and large rainfall and weather conditions remained favourable for oilseeds during 1992-93 and 1993-94. However, in 1992-93, 3 subdivisions experienced deficient rains but in 1993-94, only 4 sub-divisions had deficient rains; affecting the oilseeds in Saurashtra and Kutch in Gujarat state and coastal Andhra and Telengana in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) During 1992-93 the production was less than the target in Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Haryana, Orissa, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal. While in 1993-94, it is likely to be short of target in Assam, Bihar, Gujarat, Haryana, Orissa and Punjab.

(c) The anticipated production of oilseeds in Madhya Pradesh during 1993-94 is 45.48 lakh tonnes.

(d) To increase the production of oilseeds, a Centrally Sponsored Oilseed Production Programme (OPP) is under implementation in 21 States. Assistance in this programme is provided for production and distribution of seeds, improved farm implements, Sprinkler Sets, Gypsm and Pyrites etc.

(e) The Saurashtra & Kutch sub-division in Gujarat and coastal Andhra and Telengana division in Andhra Pradesh which had deficient rains, rest of the sub-divisions had excess or normal rains in 1993-94 which brightened the prospects of oilseeds production.

Decline in the use of Phosphatic Fertilizers

5034. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the use of phosphatic fertilizers has declined in comparison to introgenous fertilizers;

(b) what are the details in this regard for the past three years; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to remedy this trend ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) and (b) The consumption of fertilizer nutrients in the country during the last three years is given below :

Nutrient	1991-92	1992-93 (Estt.)	1993-94 (Likely)
N	80.46	84.26	89.86
P	33.21	28.43	82.84
K	13.61	8.84	9.63
TOTAL	127.28	121.53	128.33

(c) In order to maintain the consumption level of phosphatic and potassic fertilizers, the Government of India had taken the following measures :

(1) Rs. 340 crores (1992-93) and Rs. 632 crores (during 1993-94) were provided for sale of decontrolled phosphatic and potassic fertilisers with concession to the farmers.

(2) The indigenous fertilizer industry was assisted by

(i) restricting the concession during 1993-94 to indigenous production only.

(ii) reduction in railway freight in respect of raw material such as phosphatic Acid, Rock Phosphate etc.

(iii) abolition of customs duty on certain raw materials.

Manufacturing of Drip Irrigation Equipments

5035. SHRI AHMED MOHMEDBHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Ahmedabad-based Industrialist has floated Rs. 525 crores company to manufacture drip irrigation equipments;

(b) whether the project of Narmada Macplast Drip Irrigation system is coming up at Santej village in Kalol taluka of Gujarat;

(c) if so, wheher this project is being undertaken with the help of Israel;

(d) whether any concrete proposals in this regard have been worked out; and

(e) if so, by when the drip irrigation equipments will be made available to meet the total demands ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM) : (a) No such information is available.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Yes. Technical help to set up the plant is being provided by Central Institute of Plastics Engineering & Technology (CIPET) under the Department of Chemicals and Petrochemicals.

(e) There are over 30 companies existing to meet the total demand.

Production of Pulses

5036. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) wether FAO has given any advice on the need to increase the production of pulses which forms the poor man's protein requirement;

(b) if so, the reaction of Ministry of Agriculture;

(c) whether Agriculture Ministry will encourage farmers in Andhra Pradesh to take to cultivation of pulses: and

(d) what incentives are being offered for the same ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The Technology Mission on Oilseeds and Pulses in the Ministry of Agriculture has not received such advice.

(c) and (d) To encourage the farmers for higher production Centrally Sponsored National Pulses Development Project (NPDP) is under implementation in 26 states including Andhra Pradesh in which key inputs like production and distribution of seeds, improved farm implements, sprinkler sets. Integrated Pest Management Demonstrations, Dal Processors/Storage bins, Micro-nutrients, Rhyzobium Culture/Phosphate solublizing bacteria etc. are supplied to the farmers on reduced rates. Production Technology is being disseminated through Front Line Demonstrations by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) and general Demonstration by State Department of Agriculture.

The cost of the scheme is being shared by the Govt. of India and State Govt. on 75:25 basis. The Central allocation for Andhra Pradesh during 1993-94 was Rs. 130.00 lakhs which has been raised to Rs. 140.00 lakhs during 1994-95.

Starvation deaths in Pathini Tea Estate

5037. SHRI SOM PAL :

SHRI SARADA MOHANTY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report published in the 'Economic Times' of 16th March, 1994 to the effect that 'Nine workers of Pathini